

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A metering device for a product intended to be applied to skin, in particular a pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition, comprising:

an applicator stick ~~with~~ that includes

a longitudinal groove divided into a series of compartments and

graduations provided perpendicular to the groove, that extend from a top surface of the applicator stick in a depth direction of the groove,

wherein said groove accommodates a quantity of composition corresponding to a defined surface area of skin to be treated,

wherein said quantity of composition is defined by the series of compartments, and

wherein the groove defines an uncovered depression in ~~[[a]]~~ the top surface of the applicator stick such that an entirety of the groove is exposed opposite the depression.

2. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the applicator stick is fitted with graduations which, from one end of the groove correspond~~ corresponds to ~~[[the]]~~ a start of a first compartment, and

wherein the graduations define boundaries of the series of compartments such that the graduations define the quantity of composition in each of the series of compartments of the groove.

3. (Previously Presented) The metering device according claim 1, wherein the groove includes a first compartment, a second compartment, a third compartment, and a fourth compartment.

4. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 2, wherein the graduations of the applicator stick are selected from: a graduated scale, protuberances, notches, and a set of colors or a combination thereof.

5. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 2, wherein the first compartment is able to contain a quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 0.8 to 1.2% of a total surface of a body.

6. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 3, wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 2.4 to 3.6% of a total surface of a body.

7. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 3, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, and the third compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 4.8 to 7.1% of a total surface of a body.

8. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 3, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, the third compartment, and the fourth compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 7.2 to 10.8% of a total surface of a body.

9. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 3, wherein said composition treats psoriasis, and said composition is calcitriol ointment.

10. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 9, wherein the first compartment is able to contain a quantity of 0.35 g to 0.54 g of calcitriol ointment.

11. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 9, wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of 1.08 g to 1.62 g of calcitriol ointment.

12. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 9, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, and the third compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of 2.16 g to 3.20 g of calcitriol ointment.

13. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 9, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, the third compartment, and the fourth compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of 3.24 g to 4.86 g of calcitriol ointment.

14. (Currently Amended) The metering device according to claim 2, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the groove includes a first compartment, a second compartment, a third compartment, and a fourth compartment.

15. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 14, wherein the graduations of the applicator stick are selected from: a graduated scale, protuberances, notches, and a set of colors or a combination thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 15, wherein the first compartment is able to contain a quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 0.8 to 1.2% of a total surface of a body.

17. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 15, wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 2.4 to 3.6% of a total surface of a body.

18. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 15, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, and the third compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 4.8 to 7.1% of a total surface of a body.

19. (Previously Presented) The metering device according to claim 15, wherein the first compartment, the second compartment, the third compartment, and the fourth compartment are able to contain a combined quantity of composition corresponding to an area of 7.2 to 10.8% of a total surface of a body.

20. (Currently Amended) The metering device for metering a drug intended to be applied to the skin according to claim 1, wherein said composition is treats psoriasis, and said composition is calcitriol ointment.

21. (Previously Presented) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim 1, wherein the groove has a uniform cross sectional area in an axial direction of the groove.

22. (Previously Presented) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim 1, wherein the groove has a constant depth and a constant width perpendicular to the axial direction of the groove.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim ~~[[23]]~~ 1,
wherein the graduations divide the groove into the series of compartments and
wherein a volume of a compartment is defined by a length of the compartment in the axial direction.

25. (Previously Presented) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim 24, wherein each compartment in the series of compartments has a successively larger volume.

26. (Previously Presented) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim 1,
wherein the applicator stick includes a flared circular portion and a narrow portion,
wherein the narrow portion extends from a first end of the applicator stick to the flared circular portion in an axial direction of the groove,
wherein the circular portion extends beyond the groove to a second end of the applicator stick, and

wherein the circular portion includes a greater width than the narrow portion in a transverse direction of the applicator stick so as to facilitate handling the applicator stick.

27. (Previously Presented) The metering device for metering a drug intending to be applied to the skin according to claim 1,

wherein the applicator stick includes a lower surface on an opposite side of the applicator stick with respect to the top surface, and

wherein the groove defines a bulge on the lower surface of the applicator stick such that the metering device is inclined when placed on a flat surface.